SJS 44 (Rev. 12/07, NJ 5/08)

Case 2:13-cv-00229-CDJ Document 1 Filed 01/15/13 Page 1 of 12 CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

the civil docket sheet. (SEE IN	NSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVE	RSE OF THE FORM.)		1 / 1			
I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANTS			
ARICA JOSEPH				NCO FINANCIAL SYSTEMS, INC.			
(b) County of Residence	of First Listed Plaintiff			County of Residence o	f First Listed Defendant		
(c) Attorney's (Firm Na	me, Address, Telephone Nu	mber and Email Addı	ress)	NOTE: IN LANI	O CONDEMNATION CASES, U	SE THE LOCATION OF THE	
Craig Thor Kimmel, E Kimmel & Silverman, 30 E. Butler Pike Ambler, PA 19002 (215) 540-8888				LAND I Attorneys (If Known)	NVOLVED.		
II. BASIS OF JURISE	OICTION (Place an "X" in	One Box Only)			RINCIPAL PARTIES	(Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff	
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff	■ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government N	Jot a Party)			TF DEF 1		
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	☐ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)		Citize	Citizen of Another State			
				en or Subject of a reign Country	3	□ 6 □ 6	
IV. NATURE OF SUI							
CONTRACT ☐ 110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	TS PERSONAL INJURY		ORFEITURE/PENALTY 0 Agriculture	BANKRUPTCY ☐ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158	OTHER STATUTES □ 400 State Reapportionment	
□ 120 Marine □ 130 Miller Act □ 140 Negotiable Instrument □ 150 Recovery of Overpayment	□ 310 Airplane □ 315 Airplane Product Liability □ 320 Assault, Libel & Slander □ 330 Federal Employers' Liability □ 340 Marine □ 345 Marine Product Liability □ 350 Motor Vehicle □ 355 Motor Vehicle □ roduct Liability □ 360 Other Personal Injury CIVIL RIGHTS □ 441 Voting □ 442 Employment □ 443 Housing/ Accommodations □ 444 Welfare □ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment	□ 362 Personal Injury - Med. Malpractice □ 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability □ 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPER¹ □ 370 Other Fraud □ 371 Truth in Lending □ 380 Other Personal Property Damage □ 385 Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITION □ 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence Habeas Corpus: □ 535 Death Penalty □ 540 Mandamus & Oth □ 550 Civil Rights □ 555 Prison Condition	62 62 63 64 64 65 66 67 71 69 72 73 79 79 79 79 79 79 79	0 Other Food & Drug 5 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881 0 Liquor Laws 0 R.R. & Truck 0 Airline Regs. 0 Occupational Safety/Health 0 Other LABOR 0 Fair Labor Standards Act 0 Labor/Mgmt. Relations 0 Labor/Mgmt. Reporting & Disclosure Act 0 Railway Labor Act 0 Other Labor Litigation 1 Empl. Ret. Inc. Security Act IMMIGRATION 2 Naturalization Application 3 Habeas Corpus - Alien Detainee 5 Other Immigration Actions	□ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157 PROPERTY RIGHTS □ 820 Copyrights □ 840 Trademark SOCIAL SECURITY □ 861 HIA (1395ff) □ 862 Black Lung (923) □ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g)) □ 864 SSID Title XVI □ 865 RSI (405(g)) FEDERAL TAX SUITS □ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant) □ 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609	□ 410 Antitrust □ 430 Banks and Banking □ 450 Commerce □ 460 Deportation □ 470 Racketeer Influenced and	
又 1 Original □ 2 Re	on Cite the U.S. Civil Star 15 U.S. C SECT Brief description of car	Appellate Court tute under which you ar ION 1692	Reop	pened another (speci	ferred from cr district fy) al statutes unless diversity):		
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:		IS A CLASS ACTION		EMAND \$	CHECK YES only JURY DEMAND	r if demanded in complaint: : I Yes □ No	
VIII. RELATED CAS	(See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCKET NUMBER		
Explanation:					_		
DATE		SICNATURE OF	ATTO	ONEV OF RECORD			

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECOR

01/15/2013 /s/ Craig Thor Kimmel

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

ARICA JOSEPH		:	CIVIL ACTION	
v. NCO FINANCIAL SYSTI	EMS, INC.	: : :	CIVIL ACTION NO.	
plaintiff shall complete a C filing the complaint and servide of this form.) In the designation, that defendant	ase Management we a copy on all do event that a defeshall, with its first, a Case Managem	Track Deserted Desert	lay Reduction Plan of this court, counting signation Form in all civil cases at the court (See § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the court agree with the plaintiff regarding, submit to the clerk of court and serve Designation Form specifying the track to	time of reverse ng said e on the
SELECT ONE OF THE F	OLLOWING C	ASE MAI	NAGEMENT TRACKS:	
(a) Habeas Corpus – Cases	brought under 28	U.S.C. §	2241 through § 2255.	()
(b) Social Security – Cases and Human Services de	1 0		sion of the Secretary of Health ity Benefits.	()
(c) Arbitration – Cases requ	uired to be design	ated for ar	bitration under Local Civil Rule 53.2.	(X)
(d) Asbestos – Cases involvexposure to asbestos.	ving claims for pe	rsonal inju	ary or property damage from	()
	s complex and tha	at need spe	acks (a) through (d) that are cial or intense management by ed explanation of special	
management cases.)				()
(f) Standard Management -	- Cases that do no	ot fall into	any one of the other tracks.	()
01/15/2013 Date	Craig Thor Kin		Plaintiff, Arica Joseph Attorney for	

877-788-2864

FAX Number

kimmel@creditlaw.com E-Mail Address

215-540-8888 Telephone

Case 2:13-cv-00220101010 STDATION DISTRICT CONTRAIN Page 3 of 12

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA — DESIGNATION FORM to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to appropriate calendar.

assignment to appropriate calendar.	
Address of Plaintiff: 504 Jeffery Court, Apt. B, LaPla	ce, LA 70068
Address of Defendant: 507 Prudential Rd., Horsham, PA	19044
Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction:	
(Use Reverse Side For A	Additional Space)
Does this civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate party with any parent corporation a	and any publicly held corporation owning 10% or more of its stock?
(Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 7.1(a)	$Yes \square No \square$
Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities?	Yes□ No⊠
RELATED CASE, IF ANY:	
Case Number: Judge	Date Terminated:
Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following questions:	
1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one y	ear previously terminated action in this court?
	Yes□ No⊠
2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior action in this court?	suit pending or within one year previously terminated
delian in and court.	Yes□ No⊠
3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier to	numbered case pending or within one year previously
terminated action in this court?	Yes□ No⊠
4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil righ	ts case filed by the same individual?
	Yes□ No ∑
CIVIL: (Place in ONE CATEGORY ONLY)	
A. Federal Question Cases:	B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases:
1. □ Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts	□ Insurance Contract and Other Contracts
2. □ FELA	2. □ Airplane Personal Injury
3. □ Jones Act-Personal Injury	3. □ Assault, Defamation
4. □ Antitrust	4. □ Marine Personal Injury
5. □ Patent	5. □ Motor Vehicle Personal Injury
6. □ Labor-Management Relations	6. □ Other Personal Injury (Please specify)
7. □ Civil Rights	7. □ Products Liability
8. □ Habeas Corpus	8. □ Products Liability — Asbestos
9. □ Securities Act(s) Cases	9. □ All other Diversity Cases
10. □ Social Security Review Cases	(Please specify)
11. X All other Federal Question Cases	
(Please specify) 15 U.S.C. § 1692	
ARBITRATION CERT	TFICATION
I, Craig Thor Kimmel , counsel of record do hereby certi	
□ Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to the best of my knowledge and	
\$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs;	outer, and damages recoverable in any error according to control and same or
□ Relief other than monetary damages is sought.	
DATE: 01/15/2013 /s/ Craig Thor Kimme	57100
Attorney-at-Law	Attorney I.D.#
NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if the	ere has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.
I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now pending or	within one year previously terminated action in this court
except as noted above.	
DATE: 01/15/2013 /s/ Craig Thor Kimmel	57100

Attorney-at-Law

Attorney I.D.#

1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE 2 EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA 3 ARICA JOSEPH, 4 Plaintiff 5 Case No.: v. 6 **COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR** NCO FINANCIAL SYSTEMS, INC., 7 **JURY TRIAL** 8 (Unlawful Debt Collection Practices) Defendant 9 COMPLAINT 10 11 ARICA JOSEPH ("Plaintiff"), by and through her attorneys, KIMMEL & SILVERMAN, 12 P.C., alleges the following against NCO FINANCIAL SYSTEMS, INC. ("Defendant"): 13 INTRODUCTION 14 1. Plaintiff's Complaint is based on the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 15 U.S.C. §1692 et seq. ("FDCPA") and the Telephone Consumer Protection Act, 47 U.S.C. §227 16 et seq. ("TCPA"). 17 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE** 18 2. Jurisdiction of this court arises pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1692k(d), which states 19 that such actions may be brought and heard before "any appropriate United States district court 20 without regard to the amount in controversy," and 28 U.S.C. §1331 grants this court original 21 jurisdiction of all civil actions arising under the laws of the United States. 22 3. Defendant has its corporate headquarters in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; 23 24 as such, personal jurisdiction is established. 25 4. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1391(b)(1).

PARTIES

- 5. Plaintiff is a natural person residing in LaPlace, Louisiana, 70068.
- 6. Plaintiff is a "consumer" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(3).
- 7. In the alternative, Plaintiff is a person granted a cause of action under the FDCPA. See 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a) and Wenrich v. Cole, 2000 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 18687 (E.D. Pa. Dec. 22, 2000).
- 8. Defendant is a national debt collection company with its corporate headquarters located at 507 Prudential Road, Horsham, Pennsylvania 19044.
- 9. Defendant is a "debt collector" as that term is defined by 15 U.S.C. §1692a(6), and repeatedly contacted Plaintiff in an attempt to collect a debt.
- 10. Defendant acted through its agents, employees, officers, members, directors, heirs, successors, assigns, principals, trustees, sureties, subrogees, representatives, and insurers.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 11. At all relevant times, Defendant was attempting to collect an alleged consumer debt.
- 12. Upon information and belief, the alleged debt at issue arose out of transactions, which were primarily for personal, family, or household purposes.
- 13. Plaintiff never incurred any debt in connection with a business or commercial activities and, therefore, the debt, if truly an obligation owed by her, could have only arisen from a financial obligation for primarily personal, family or household purposes.
 - 14. The debt Defendant is seeking to collect is a consumer debt.
 - 15. Beginning in January 2012, and continuing through December 2012, Defendant

payment of an alleged debt.

16. Defendant called Plaintiff's cellular telephone, on average, two (2) times a day,

continuously contacted Plaintiff on her cellular and work telephones seeking and demanding

- 16. Defendant called Plaintiff's cellular telephone, on average, two (2) times a day, and placed most calls in quick succession in an effort to harass Plaintiff and cause disruption to her life. Plaintiff never consented to the placement of calls to her cellular telephone by Defendant or the creditor that placed an account for collection with Defendant.
- 17. None of Defendant's telephone calls placed to Plaintiff were for "emergency purposes," as specified in 47 U.S.C. §227(b)(1)(A).
- 18. Over the period that Defendant was contacting Plaintiff, upon information and belief, Defendant called Plaintiff several times on her cellular telephone using a pre-recorded, computer recorded, or automated message.
- 19. In addition to contacting Plaintiff on her cellular phone, Defendant contacted her place of employment, disclosing details about the alleged debt to her co-workers.
- 20. Plaintiff did not give Defendant permission to disclose any information regarding the alleged debt to any third party, including her co-workers.
- Defendant's disclosure of personal debt information to a third party was extremely embarrassing to Plaintiff and caused her great harm.
- 22. Plaintiff received more than ten (10) collection calls a week and more than twenty (20) collection calls in a 30-day period.
- 23. In those instances when Plaintiff spoke with Defendant, its collectors threatened to take legal action against her, despite knowing that it did not intend to take the threatened action and since has not taken steps in furtherance of the threatened action.
 - 24. Further, Defendant used the time of its calls to harass Plaintiff, calling her at

times which it was inconvenient for her to receive collection calls. Specifically, on more than one occasion, Defendant called her after 9:00 p.m., which it knew was per se inconvenient and not authorized by Plaintiff.

- 25. Finally, within five (5) days of its initial communication with Plaintiff, Defendant failed to send written notification informing her of her rights to dispute the debt and/or request verification of the debt.
- 26. To date, Plaintiff has yet to receive any written notification from Defendant regarding her rights to dispute the debt and/or request verification of the debt.
 - 27. Defendant's actions in collecting a debt were abusive, harassing and deceptive.

DEFENDANT VIOLATED THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

COUNT I

- 28. Defendant's conduct, as detailed in the preceding paragraphs, violated 15 U.S.C. §1692c(a)(1) and 1692c(b).
 - a. A debt collector violates §1692c(a)(1) of the FDCPA by communicating with the consumer at any unusual time or place or a time or place known or which should be known to be inconvenient to the consumer, including communication between a debt collector and consumer prior to 8:00 a.m. or after 9:00 p.m.
 - b. Section 1692c(b) of the FDCPA states that except as provided in section 1692b, without the prior consent of the consumer given directly to the debt collector, or the express permission of the court of competent jurisdiction, or as reasonably necessary to effectuate a post-judgment judicial remedy, a debt collector may not communicate, in connection with the collection of any debt,

with any person other than a consumer, his attorney, a consumer reporting agency if otherwise permitted by law, the creditor, the attorney of the creditor, or the attorney of the debt collector.

c. Here, Defendant violated §1692c(a)(1) and 1692c(b) of the FDCPA by placing numerous collection calls to Plaintiff's cellular telephone after 9:00 p.m., calling her at her place of employment, and disclosing information about the debt to third parties without her authorization.

COUNT II

- 29. Defendant's conduct, as detailed in the preceding paragraphs, violated 15 U.S.C. §§1692d and 1692d(5).
 - a. A debt collector violates §1692d of the FDCPA by engaging in conduct of the natural consequence of which is to harass, oppress, or abuse any person in connection with the collection of a debt.
 - b. A debt collector violates §1692d(5) of the FDCPA by causing a telephone to ring or engaging any person in telephone conversation repeatedly or continuously with the intent to annoy, abuse, or harass any person at the called number.
 - c. Here, Defendant violated §§1692d and 1692d(5) of the FDCPA by continuously calling Plaintiff's cellular telephone on an average two (2) times a day, with the intent to annoy, abuse, and harass Plaintiff.

COUNT III

30. Defendant's conduct, as detailed in the preceding paragraphs, violated 15 U.S.C. §§1692e and 1692e(5) of the FDCPA.

- a. A debt collector violates §1692e of the FDCPA by using false, deceptive or misleading representations or means in connection with the collection of any debt.
- b. A debt collector violates §1692e(5) by threatening to take any action that cannot legally be taken or that is not intended to be taken.
- c. Here, Defendant violated §§1692e and 1692e(5) of the FDCPA by threatening to take legal action against Plaintiff if she did make a payment on the alleged debt, lacking the intent to take such action.

COUNT IV

- 31. Defendant's conduct, detailed in the preceding paragraphs, violated 15 U.S.C. \$1692g.
 - a. A debt collector violates §1692f of the FDCPA by using unfair or unconscionable means to collect or attempt to collect any debt.
 - b. Here, Defendant violated §1692f of the FDCPA by calling Plaintiff at her place of employment, calling her on her cellular phone, not providing her with information about the debt, and revealing information about the debt to her co-workers, as well as engaging in other unfair or unconscionable means to collect or attempt to collect a debt.

COUNT V

- 32. Defendant's conduct, detailed in the preceding paragraphs, violated 15 U.S.C. §1692g.
 - a. A debt collector violates §1692g(a) of the FDCPA by failing to send to the consumer, within five days after its initial communication with a consumer in

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connection with the collection of a debt, a written notice containing: (1) the amount of the debt; (2) the name of the creditor to whom the debt is owed; (3) a statement that unless the consumer, within thirty days after receipt of the notice, disputes the validity of the debt, or any portion thereof, the debt will be assumed to be valid by the debt collector; (4) a statement that if the consumer notifies the debt collector in writing within the thirty-day period that the debt, or any portion thereof, is disputed, the debt collector will obtain verification of the debt or a copy of a judgment against the consumer and a copy of such verification or judgment will be mailed to the consumer by the debt collector; and (5) a statement that, upon the consumer's written request within the thirty-day period, the debt collector will provide the consumer with the name and address of the original creditor, if different from the current creditor.

b. Here, Defendant violated §1692g of the FDCPA by failing to send written notification, within five (5) days after its initial communication with Plaintiff, advising Plaintiff of her rights to dispute the debt or request verification of the debt or providing her with the name of the original creditor and the amount of the debt.

COUNT VI DEFENDANT VIOLATED THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT

33. Section 227(b)(3)(A) of the TCPA authorizes a private cause of action for a person or entity to bring in an appropriate court of that state "an action based on a violation of this subsection or the regulations prescribed under this subsection to enjoin such violation."

	34.	Section 227(b)(3)(B), of the Act authorizes a private cause of action for a person
or entit	y to bri	ng in an appropriate court of that state "an action to recover for actual monetary
loss fro	m such	a violation, or to receive \$500 in damages for each such violation, whichever is
greater.	,,,	

- 35. Despite the fact that Plaintiff never consented to Defendant making calls to her cellular phone, Defendant repeatedly placed non-emergency calls to Plaintiff's cellular telephone without Plaintiff's consent.
- 36. The Act also authorizes the Court, in its discretion, to award up to three (3) times the actual damages sustained for violations.
- 37. Here, Defendant repeatedly and regularly placed non-emergency, automated calls to Plaintiff's cellular telephone, using a pre-recorded or artificial voice.
- 38. Upon information and belief, Defendant contacted Plaintiff on her cellular telephone dozens of times.
- 39. Defendant did not have Plaintiff's express consent prior to contacting her cellular telephone using an automatic telephone dialing system or pre-recorded or artificial voice.
- 40. Defendant's conduct violated §227(b)(1)(A)(iii) of the TCPA by making any call using any automatic telephone dialing system or an artificial prerecorded voice to a telephone number assigned to a cellular telephone service.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, ARICA JOSEPH, respectfully prays for a judgment as follows:

- a. All actual damages suffered pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(1);
- b. Statutory damages of \$1,000.00 for the violation of the FDCPA pursuant to
 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(a)(2)(A);

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1	c.	All reasonable attorneys' fees, witness fees, court costs and other litigation
2		costs incurred by Plaintiff pursuant to 15 U.S.C. §1693k(a)(3);
3	d.	Statutory damages of \$500.00 for each violation of the TCPA, pursuant to 4
4		U.S.C. §227(c)(5)(B); and
5	d.	Any other relief deemed appropriate by this Honorable Court.
6		DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
7	PLEASE T	TAKE NOTICE that Plaintiff, ARICA JOSEPH, demands a jury trial in this
8 9	case.	
10		RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
11		
12	Date: 01/15/2013	By: <u>/s/ Craig Thor Kimmel</u> CRAIG THOR KIMMEL
13		Attorney ID No. 57100
14		Kimmel & Silverman, P.C. 30 E. Butler Pike
15		Ambler, PA 19002 Phone: (215) 540-8888
16		Fax: (877) 788-2864 Email: <u>kimmel@creditlaw.com</u>
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